

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A cover authoring tool, comprising:
2 an interface configured to receive size information for a document to be
3 bound into a perfectly bound book having a spine characterized by a width
4 dimension and a height dimension, and to receive content information for a cover to
5 be attached to the perfectly bound book; and
6 a cover content layout engine configured to compose a final content layout for
7 the cover, including spinal content formatted to accommodate the width and height
8 dimensions of the book spine based upon the document size information and the
9 cover content information received through the interface.
- 1 2. The cover authoring tool of claim 1, wherein the cover content layout
2 engine is configured to compute the thickness dimension of the perfectly bound book
3 from the received document size information.
- 1 3. The cover authoring tool of claim 2, wherein the received document
2 size information includes type of paper and number of pages in the perfectly bound
3 book.
- 1 4. The cover authoring tool of claim 1, wherein the received cover content
2 information includes graphical content and textual content.
- 1 5. The cover authoring tool of claim 4, wherein the interface comprises a
2 graphical user interface through which a user may specify content and content layout
3 for the cover.
- 1 6. The cover authoring tool of claim 5, wherein the graphical user
2 interface is configured to present multiple pre-generated cover styles for selection by
3 the user.
- 1 7. The cover authoring tool of claim 6, wherein the cover content layout
2 engine is configured to compose the final content layout for the cover based upon a
3 pre-generated cover style selected by the user.

1 8. The cover authoring tool of claim 7, wherein the cover content layout
2 engine is configured to conform a spinal region of the selected pre-generated cover
3 style to the width dimension of the book spine.

1 9. The cover authoring tool of claim 1, wherein the cover content layout
2 engine is configured to select typeface parameter values for spinal text content
3 consisting of a number of characters.

1 10. The cover authoring tool of claim 9, wherein the typeface parameter
2 values are selected based at least in part upon the number of characters of spinal text
3 content and the height and width dimensions of the book spine.

1 11. The cover authoring tool of claim 9, wherein values are selected for
2 one or more of the following typeface parameters: font size, spread, stretch font
3 variation, and font weight.

1 12. The cover authoring tool of claim 11, wherein the font variation is
2 selected from the group consisting of a regular font face, a condensed font face, an
3 expanded font face, and multiple master typeface.

1 13. A cover authoring method, comprising:
2 receiving size information for a document to be bound into a perfectly bound
3 book having a spine characterized by a width dimension and a height dimension;
4 receiving content information for a cover to be attached to the perfectly bound
5 book; and
6 composing a final content layout for the cover, including spinal content
7 formatted to accommodate the width and height dimensions of the book spine based
8 upon the received document size information and the received cover content
9 information.

1 14. The cover authoring method of claim 13, further comprising computing
2 the thickness dimension of the perfectly bound book from the received document
3 size information.

1 15. The cover authoring method of claim 13, further comprising presenting
2 multiple pre-generated cover styles for selection by a user.

1 16. The cover authoring method of claim 15, wherein the final content
2 layout for the cover is composed based upon a pre-generated cover style selected by
3 the user.

1 17. The cover authoring method of claim 13, further comprising selecting
2 typeface parameter values for spinal text content consisting of a number of
3 characters.

1 18. The cover authoring method of claim 17, wherein the typeface
2 parameter values are selected based at least in part upon the number of characters of
3 spinal text content and the height and width dimensions of the book spine.

1 19. The cover authoring method of claim 17, wherein values are selected
2 for one or more of the following typeface parameters: weight axis, width axis, style
3 axis, and optical size axis.

1 20. A bookbinding system, comprising:
2 a sheet composer configured to format a document to be bound into a perfect
3 bound and to print the formatted document onto two or more sheets;
4 a sheet binder configured to form from the two or more printed sheets a text
5 body having an exposed spine characterized by a width dimension and a height
6 dimension;

7 a cover authoring tool comprising
8 an interface configured to receive size information for the text body,
9 and to receive content information for a cover to be attached to
10 the perfectly bound book, and
11 a cover content layout engine configured to compose a final content
12 layout for the cover, including spinal content formatted to
13 accommodate the width and height dimensions of the book

